

# Calaveras River Watershed Management Plan Implementation Program (Phase II): Baseline Water Quality Monitoring

Calaveras County Water District



*An Adopt-a-Watershed program field trip is conducted on the Calaveras River at Monte Vista Recreation Area, just below New Hogan Dam.*

**Award Amount**  
\$300,000

**Watershed**  
Calaveras River Watershed

**County**  
Calaveras and San Joaquin Counties

**CALFED Region**  
Delta Region

**Legislative Districts**  
US Congress: 3  
State Assembly: 25  
State Senate: 1

## Purpose

The purpose of this project is to conduct water volume and water quality monitoring that will lead to improvements in the Calaveras River Watershed.

## Project Goals

- Design and implement a baseline water quality, stream condition, habitat, and best management practice (BMP) monitoring program.
- Coordinate development of watershed management policies and oversee project implementation.
- Continue public outreach programs aimed at building a more informed and involved stakeholder group.
- Use data collected during baseline monitoring to identify protective and restorative measures.

## Benefits to the CALFED Program

*The Calaveras River Watershed is a component of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan's Eastside Delta Tributaries Ecological Management Zone and supports fall-run Chinook salmon and other fish, wildlife, and plant resources. Rapid growth and land use changes are threatening water quality and ecosystem resources in the watershed, as well as water supply to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta. The Ecosystem Restoration Program's vision for the Calaveras River watershed is to restore and maintain important ecological processes that support a sustainable migration corridor for fall-run Chinook salmon. This project conserves and protects water volumes and water quality in the Calaveras River, which aids in restoring instream flows and makes the area less dependent on alternative sources of water.*

## Project Overview

The Calaveras River is located in Calaveras, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin Counties and flows downstream directly into the San Joaquin River System and then on to the Bay-Delta. The Calaveras River watershed is experiencing degradation of water quality and impairments to the ecosystem because of increased population and land use intensity.

It is the responsibility of the Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) to provide clean, contaminant-free drinking water for residents and visitors to the CCWD service district. To do this and also ensure that the Calaveras River remains in a state that supports the beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system, this project addresses future availability of sufficient water supply and water quality by monitoring baseline water quality and supply volumes to ensure they are adequate and of high quality. To do this, the project monitors baseline water quality and monitors water supply volumes to ensure they are adequate and of high quality. Conducting monitoring now will help avoid the need for expensive treatment in the future and ensure there is enough water for human consumption as well as for fish and wildlife. The project uses citizen monitoring groups to conduct much of the water quality monitoring.

The project will help manage water supply and water quality in the watershed, which is critical to the health of the Calaveras and San Joaquin Rivers and the Bay-Delta system.



*The Calaveras River just below New Hogan Dam at the Jenny Lind Water Treatment Plant intake.*

## Contact Information

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